The Truth Will Set You Free (Part III)

by Victor

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>
couple of things to start:
> The title change is due to the fact that I can't keep this just between Willow
 and Spike. The more I write the more the rest of the gang shows up.
> The timeline this follows is a bit screwy, I know. I'm using bits and pieces
 from current episodes with no time for the events that actually happened. I'll
> just play my "Creative License" card and apologize for messing with your
 heads.
> If you want to check out the other two, I posted the first one on 121 and the
> second one on 123.
> This one was written on the fly, right here, right now. The other two were
 written at night and copied/edited the next day. So if this one is different in
> any way...that's why. Anyway, enjoy.
>
 Giles is watching Jeopardy! when he hears a knock at the door. He calls over
> his shoulder, "Just a minute." and to the television asks, "Who is Tim Curry?"
 One of the contestants echoes the question as Giles goes to the window,
> glances out, and sees Willow. He lets her in.
 W: "Hi, Giles. I left Spike at Xander's house. He wasn't home but his mom let
> us into the basement, then I came right over. Is Buffy here yet?"
 G: "Hello, Willow. No, not yet. She should be by any-"
> W: "I've got to tell you something."
 G: "Have a seat. Are you alright? Did Spike...no, that wouldn't work, would it?
> Umm...what happened?"
 W: "Okay. Before I tell you what I've got to tell you, there's a couple of other
> things I've got to tell you first."
 G: "Very w-"

> W: "And I've got to tell you before Buffy shows up, so just listen, okay?"
 Giles nods.
> W: "I know you're still upset about Buffy keeping secrets from you and
 everything but I'm telling you this and nobody else so now you have a secret to
> keep from her. Anyway, don't judge me or anything like that when I tell you
 this. I just want you to know and give me a good Giles-as-mentor kinda
> response as opposed to the Giles-as-father-figure response I know you want
 me to hear."
> G: "Well, al-"
 W: "And as for why you can't tell Buffy...you'll know after I tell you."
> He waits for her to begin. There is complete silence for a moment.
 W: "Are you ready?"
> G: "Certainly. Yes. Please go on."
 W: "Well why didn't you say so? I'm going out on a date. Tomorrow night."
> G: "That's wonderful. Why would Buffy not want to hear that?"
 W: "With Spike."
> G: "Ah. What? Spike? You can't be serious."
 W: "Giles-as-mentor. Remember that. And would I make this up? No."
> G: "The mind reels with questions...how about, um, you tell me how this came
 about and I'll, ah, keep a steady hold on my 'Mentor' frame of mind, yes?"
> W: "Well, while we were at my house today, we were talking about stuff.
 Personal stuff. I just couldn't help but feel sorry for him. He was talking
> about Drusilla and things he wanted to do and no matter how many times I told
 myself that he's Spike, I just kept coming back to the fact that right now he's
> harmless Spike. The things he said really made sense, you know? And I was
 even thinking about it on the way over here. I thought that maybe since we
> were alone I wasn't thinking straight but that's not the case because I'm
 thinking the same things I was thinking earlier right now."
> G: "Willow, feeling sorry for someone is no reason to go out on a date with
 them."
> W: "That's father-figure-Giles talking."
 G: "Yes it is. It's also mentor-Giles, ex-librarian-Giles, ex-watcher-Giles,
> used-to-be-a-teenager-Giles, and a whole host of other Gileses. I understand
 that Spike is very different now, but you must remember that in his mind he is
> still a ruthless killer. This isn't a case of him getting his soul restored like
 Angel. He still thinks the same way he used to and he feels no remorse for the
> things he's done or the things he still wants to do. And along with that remains
 the fact that pity is still no reason to go on a date with someone."
> W: "It's not pity that's making me act this way. Pity might have been a factor
 at one point, but not now. I've got a little more insight to him than you do. I see
> a different Spike."
 G: "Than why tell only me this. Why not tell the others as well? Surely if you
> plan to go through with this date nothing we say will deter you."
 W: "No. But I'd feel bad the whole time I was supposed to be enjoying myself.
> I'm telling you because first of all, I had to tell somebody, and second of all,
 you've spent more time with him than anybody else."
> G: "What about Xander?"
 W: "Xander hates Spike. Sure he may be

able to tolerate him, maybe even joke
> around with him a little, but he still hates him."
 G: "I'm not overly fond of him, myself."
> W: "I know that. But you've got a better way of thinking about it...more
 analytical. You can at least see a few sides to something. Xander only sees one
> most of the time, especially this time. And Buffy's the same way."
 G: "Willow...ahhh...I'm not going to tell you not to do this. I'm not even going to
> tell you that you shouldn't do it because I know it would be pointless. But I
 will caution you to remember a few things. Spike may not be like this forever.
> And while what you're doing may grant you a small grace period with him,
 don't think that it will save you. He has made no effort to deny what he would
> would do to all of us given the opportunity. He may have actual feelings for
 you, but think about this -- when a person goes blind, their other senses get
> stronger to compensate. Spike is figuratively blind. He's unable to do
 something that, to him, is second nature and he's compensating by using his
> ability to feel emotion. He is, in effect, becoming human. But once he can 'see'
 again, that humanity will be nothing but a burden and he'll get rid of it."
> W: "I know that. I do. And I'm not thinking of this in a long-term way, but I
 think I can handle a little flirting with disaster. As long as he's playing nice, I
> may as well put his name in the 'friends' column, right? Do you think I'm
 crazy?"
> G: "No, I don't. I think you've got -"
 There is a knock at the door.
> W: "Ooh! It's Buffy! Remember...mum's the word, okay?"
 Giles nods. "Who is it?"
> S: "It's the big bad wolf. Open up or I'll blow your bloody house down."
 G: "Come in, Spike."
> S: "Oh. Hi, Red. Thought you'd gone back to your den of academia."
 W: "I was waiting for Buffy so we could walk together."
> G: "Why aren't you at Xander's?"
 S: "He borrowed his cousin's video camera."
> Giles and Willow exchange questioning glances and then, in unison, "So?"
 S: "And Anya was with him."
> Again, Giles and Willow in unison, "Oh."

End
file.